



Transmitted Via Electronic Mail & Federal Express

January 20, 2017

Ms. Eugenia Naranjo
Remedial Project Manager

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 155, Newark Bay Study Area

Dear Ms. Naranjo:

Submitted herewith are two (2) copies of Monthly Progress Report No. 155 for work performed during December 2016 at the Newark Bay Study Area. This progress report has been prepared pursuant to Section X, Paragraph 71 of the Administrative Order on Consent between U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Occidental Chemical Corporation, Index No. CERCLA 02-2004-2010.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (757) 282-6462.

Sincerely,

Tierra Solutions, Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Firstenberg", is written over the printed name.

Clifford Firstenberg
Facility Coordinator
On behalf of Occidental Chemical Corporation
(as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)

Enclosures (2 copies sent)

Cc: Bureau of Case Management
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Site Remediation Program 401-05F
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Attn: Jay Nickerson

Chief, New Jersey Superfund Branch
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
290 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
Attn: Amelia Wagner, Diamond Alkali Site Attorney – Newark Bay Study Area

Glenn Springs Holdings, Inc.
5 Greenway Plaza, Suite 110
Houston, TX 77046
Attn: Juan Somoano

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT NO. 155
NEWARK BAY STUDY AREA
WORK PERIOD: December 2016

A. Actions Taken Toward Achieving Compliance with the Order

1. On December 7, USEPA approved Tierra's responses to USEPA's comments on the Newark Bay RI/FS Schedule submitted to USEPA on November 17 in response to USEPA's comments received on November 15, 2016.
2. On December 7, Tierra submitted an updated version of the Newark Bay RI/FS Schedule.
3. On December 8, Tierra concluded field operations for the Newark Bay Study Area RI/FS Phase III Sediment Investigation.
4. On December 20, Tierra submitted the draft Feasibility Study Work Plan for the Newark Bay Study Area.
5. Tierra initiated work on the field report for the Newark Bay Study Area RI/FS Phase III Sediment Investigation.
6. Tierra began work on the next set of RAGS tables: 2, 3, 5, and 6.

B. Actual or Potential Violations and Other Problems Encountered

1. None

C. Corrective Actions

1. None

D. Validated Sampling or Testing Results Received or Generated During the Course of Implementing the Work

1. None

E. Future Plans, Actions and Data Scheduled for January and February 2017

1. Tierra will complete and submit the remaining Protocol Modification Forms for the Newark Bay Study Area RI/FS Phase III Sediment Investigation.
2. Tierra will review any additional USEPA comments on Tierra's Response-to-Comments documents submitted for the Environmental Sample Collection Report and Crab/Clam Data Report submitted on October 24.
3. Tierra will review any USEPA comments on the "Summary of Preliminary Receptors, Exposure Factors, and Toxicity Reference Values Selection for the Newark Bay Study Area Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment" submitted to USEPA on November 30, 2016.
4. Tierra will review any USEPA comments on the "Approach to Conducting the Sediment Quality Triad Assessment for the Newark Bay Study Area" submitted to USEPA on November 14, 2016.
5. Tierra will review any USEPA comments on the RAGS Part D Tables 1 and 4 submitted to USEPA on November 17, 2016.
6. The current schedule anticipates Tierra's receipt of the Cooperating Parties Group hydrodynamic and sediment transport models for review on January 9, 2017. Based on USEPA's November 14, 2016 letter regarding a change in approach to the NBSA modeling, Tierra will coordinate with USEPA on a revised plan and schedule for the modeling.

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F. Work Completion Estimates

1. The implementation of NBSA RIWP-Rev. 1, September 2005 is 100% complete through November 2006.
2. The implementation of NBSA Phase II RIWP, Rev. 2, Amendment 1, November 2007 is 100% complete through November 2014.

G. Delays Encountered or Anticipated and Mitigation Actions

1. None